

REMARKS

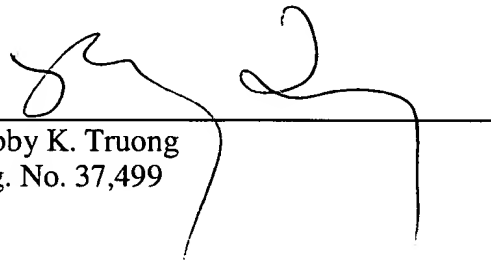
In the Office Action, the Examiner imposed a five-way restriction requirement, separating the claims into the following groups: (I) claims 1-7 and 13-20; (II) claims 8-12; (III) claims 21-30; (IV) claims 31-34 and 40; and (V) claims 35-39. Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to proceed with group III (claims 21-30) in the present application.

Allowance of claims 21-30 is hereby respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: August 1, 2003


Bobby K. Truong
Reg. No. 37,499

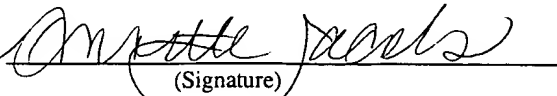
1600 Willow Street
San Jose, California 95125-5106
Telephone No.: (408) 414-1080
Facsimile No.: (408) 414-1076

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